

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A disc brake comprising:

a pair of pads disposed on opposite sides of a disc;  
a caliper including a cylinder having one end closed  
and a piston slidably fitted within the cylinder, the  
piston being adapted to be slidably moved, to thereby  
bring the pair of pads into contact with the disc;

a cam mechanism adapted to be rotated to thereby  
change an amount of projection of a cam rod;

a push rod disposed within the cylinder, which is  
adapted to be pressed and moved by the cam rod;

a clutch member disposed within the cylinder, which  
abuts against the piston while being threadably engaged  
with the push rod, the clutch member being adapted to be  
pressed by the push rod, to thereby positively perform a  
slidable movement of the piston relative to the cylinder;

a push rod biasing member disposed within the  
cylinder so as to bias the push rod towards the cam  
mechanism; and

a spring cover disposed within the cylinder, the  
push rod biasing member being held between the push rod  
and the spring cover,

wherein the push rod, the push rod biasing member and the  
spring cover form an assembly in the form of a single  
cartridge, the push rod comprising a front body portion  
threadably engaged with the clutch member and a rear body  
portion engaged with the cam rod, the front body portion  
and the rear body portion being separable from each other,

with parting surfaces thereof existing in the interior of the cartridge,

a radially outer portion of the front body portion of the push rod including a rotation-preventing portion, the rotation-preventing portion being adapted to restrict rotation of the front body portion and the cylinder relative to each other in a circumferential direction of the cylinder.

2. A disc brake according to claim 1, wherein the spring cover includes a bent portion for defining an axial length of the push rod biasing member when the spring cover, the push rod and the push rod biasing member are formed into the cartridge, the bent portion being bent at a position such that the push rod biasing member has a preset length shorter than a free length of the push rod biasing member.

3. A disc brake according to claim 2, wherein when the cartridge is assembled to the cylinder, the bent portion of the spring cover is disposed at a position separate from a bottom surface of the cylinder, the cam rod pressing against the push rod so that the push rod biasing member has a length shorter than the preset length.

4. A disc brake according to claim 1, wherein the rotation-preventing portion of the front body portion of the push rod comprises a rotation-preventing projection which projects radially outward, and a rotation-preventing recess which fittingly receives the rotation-preventing projection is formed in an inner circumferential surface

of the cylinder, rotation of the front body portion and the cylinder relative to each other in the circumferential direction of the cylinder being restricted by abutment between the rotation-preventing projection and the rotation-preventing recess.

5. A disc brake according to claim 4, wherein the rotation-preventing projection has a semicircular cross-section taken in a direction perpendicular to the axis of the front body portion and has a curved surface for abutment against the rotation-preventing recess, while the rotation-preventing recess has a semicircular cross-section taken in a direction perpendicular to the axis of the cylinder and has a curved surface for abutment against the rotation-preventing projection, the abutment between the rotation-preventing projection and the rotation-preventing recess being effected by the curved surfaces.

6. A disc brake according to claim 4, wherein the spring cover comprises a ring-shaped portion through which the clutch member is inserted, a cylindrical portion axially extending in one direction from a radially outer end portion of the ring-shaped portion and a plurality of extended portions further extending in the one direction from the cylindrical portion, the rotation-preventing projection constantly fitting between the extended portions disposed adjacent to each other by a length equal to or more than  $1/3$  the thickness of the rotation-preventing projection in an axial direction of the cartridge.

7. A disc brake according to claim 5, wherein the spring cover comprises a ring-shaped portion through which the clutch member is inserted, a cylindrical portion axially extending in one direction from a radially outer end portion of the ring-shaped portion and a plurality of extended portions further extending in the one direction from the cylindrical portion, the rotation-preventing projection constantly fitting between the extended portions disposed adjacent to each other by a length equal to or more than  $1/3$  the thickness of the rotation-preventing projection in an axial direction of the cartridge.

8. A disc brake according to claim 6, wherein a distal end portion of each extended portion includes a bent portion which is bent radially inward and engaged with the rear body portion and reference portions adjacently provided on opposite sides of the bent portion, distal end faces of the reference portions and a distal end face of the bent portion being coincident with each other in terms of position in the axial direction of the cartridge.

9. A disc brake according to claim 7, wherein a distal end portion of each extended portion includes a bent portion which is bent radially inward and engaged with the rear body portion and reference portions adjacently provided on opposite sides of the bent portion, distal end faces of the reference portions and a distal end face of the bent portion being coincident with each other in terms of position in the axial direction of the cartridge.